

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as indicated. A complete set of the claims is included below, reflecting added subject matter (*underlining*) and deleted subject matter (*strikethrough*), as well as the current status of each claim. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) A data input device configured to provide multiple data input methods in a portable electronic system, comprising:

a data input surface for detecting a gesture performed thereon by a user and for facilitating recognition of said gesture as corresponding to a particular data input, wherein said data input surface is responsive to a touch thereon and is in a location relative to a perimeter of a display device that is spaced from the display device; and

a user removable template having one of a plurality of marking configurations, wherein each marking configuration facilitates operating said data input surface in one of a plurality of functional configurations, wherein said user removable template is positioned over said data input surface for dividing said data input surface into a first data input area and a second data input area, wherein said first data input area is configured to facilitate recognition of one or more first gestures, and wherein said second data input area is configured to facilitate recognition of one or more second gestures associated with one of said functional configurations, the user by changing the user removable template capable of controlling multiple devices which are integrated into the electronic system.

2. (Original) A data input device as recited in Claim 1 wherein said one or more first gestures correspond to a plurality of handwriting strokes.

3. (Original) A data input device as recited in Claim 1 wherein said second data input area is a keyboard template wherein a keyboard character is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

4. (Original) A data input device as recited in Claim 1 wherein said second data input area is an application shortcut launcher template wherein any one of a plurality of applications is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

5. (Original) A data input device as recited in Claim 4 wherein said plurality of applications correspond to a predetermined number of previously invoked applications.

6. (Original) A data input device as recited in Claim 1 wherein said second data input area is an electronic game control template wherein any one of a plurality of electronic game controls is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

7 - 10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously Presented) A user removable data input device configured to provide multiple data input ways in a portable electronic system, comprising :

a data input surface for detecting a gesture performed thereon by a user and for facilitating recognition of said gesture as corresponding to a particular data input, wherein said data input surface is responsive to a touch thereon and is in a location relative to a perimeter of a display device that is spaced from the display device, wherein said data input surface has one of a plurality of marking configurations, wherein each marking configuration facilitates operating said data input surface in one of a plurality of functional configurations, wherein said data input surface includes a first data input area and a second data input area, wherein said first data input area is configured to facilitate recognition of one or more first gestures, and wherein said second data input area is configured to facilitate recognition of one or more second gestures associated with one of said functional configurations, and

wherein said user removable data input device is configured to couple to the electronic system and to uncouple from said electronic system.

12. (Original) A user removable data input device as recited in Claim 11 wherein said one or more first gestures correspond to a plurality of handwriting strokes.

13. (Original) A user removable data input device as recited in Claim 11 wherein said second data input area is a keyboard template wherein a keyboard character is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

14. (Original) A user removable data input device as recited in Claim 11 wherein said second data input area is an application shortcut launcher template wherein any one of a plurality of applications is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

15. (Original) A user removable data input device as recited in Claim 14 wherein said plurality of applications correspond to a predetermined number of previously invoked applications.

16. (Original) A user removable data input device as recited in Claim 11 wherein said second data input area is an electronic game control template wherein any one of a plurality of electronic game controls is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

17 - 20. (Canceled)

21. (Original) A user removable data input device as recited in Claim 11 wherein said electronic system comprises a personal digital assistant.

22. (Original) A user removable data input device as recited in Claim 11 further comprising a mechanism for automatically configuring said electronic system to recognize said user removable data input device.

23. (Currently Amended) A portable electronic system comprising:
a processor;

a bus coupled to said processor;
an electronic display device coupled to said bus;
a memory device coupled to said bus; and
a data input device coupled to said bus and configured to provide multiple different methods of data input to the portable electronic system, said data input device comprising:

a data input surface for detecting a gesture performed thereon by a user and for facilitating recognition of said gesture as corresponding to a particular data input, wherein said data input surface is responsive to a touch thereon and is ~~in an unabutted location relative to a perimeter of said electronic display device that is~~ spaced apart from the display device, and

a user removable template having one of a plurality of marking configurations, wherein each marking configuration facilitates operating said data input surface in one of a plurality of functional configurations, wherein said user removable template is positioned over said data input surface for dividing said data input surface into a first data input area and a second data input area, wherein said first data input area is configured to facilitate recognition of one or more first gestures, and wherein said second data input area is configured to facilitate recognition of one or more second gestures associated with one of said functional configurations.

24. (Original) An electronic system as recited in Claim 23 wherein said one or more first gestures correspond to a plurality of handwriting strokes.

25. (Original) An electronic system as recited in Claim 23 wherein said second data input area is a keyboard template wherein a keyboard character is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

26. (Original) An electronic system as recited in Claim 23 wherein said second data input area is an application shortcut launcher template wherein any one of a plurality of applications is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

27. (Original) An electronic system as recited in Claim 26 wherein said plurality of applications correspond to a predetermined number of previously invoked applications.

28. (Original) An electronic system as recited in Claim 23 wherein said second data input area is an electronic game control template wherein any one of a plurality of electronic game controls is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

29 - 32. (Canceled)

33. (Original) An electronic system as recited in Claim 23 wherein said electronic system comprises a first module and a second module, wherein said first module includes said electronic display device, and wherein said second module includes said data input device.

34. (Original) An electronic system as recited in Claim 23 wherein said electronic system comprises a personal digital assistant.

35. (Original) An electronic system as recited in Claim 23 further comprising one or more communication ports.

36. (Previously Presented) A portable electronic system comprising:
a processor;
a bus coupled to said processor;
an electronic display device coupled to said bus;
a memory device coupled to said bus; and

a user removable data input device providing a plurality of different methods of data input to the portable electronic system coupled to said bus, said user removable data input device comprising:

a data input surface for detecting a gesture performed thereon by a user and for facilitating recognition of said gesture as corresponding to a particular data input, wherein said data input surface is responsive to a touch thereon and is in a location relative to a perimeter of said electronic display device that is spaced from the electronic display device, wherein said data input surface has one of a plurality of marking configurations, wherein each marking configuration facilitates operating said data input surface in one of a plurality of functional configurations, wherein said data input surface includes a first data input area and a second data input area, wherein said first data input area is configured to facilitate recognition of one or more first gestures, and wherein said second data input area is configured to facilitate recognition of one or more second gestures associated with one of said functional configurations, and
wherein said user removable data input device is configured to couple to said portable electronic system and to uncouple from said portable electronic system.

37. (Previously Presented) A portable electronic system as recited in Claim 36 wherein said one or more first gestures correspond to a plurality of handwriting strokes.

38. (Previously Presented) A portable electronic system as recited in Claim 36 wherein said second data input area is a keyboard template wherein a keyboard character is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

39. (Previously Presented) A portable electronic system as recited in Claim 36 wherein said second data input area is an application shortcut launcher template wherein any one of a plurality of applications is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

40. (Previously Presented) A portable electronic system as recited in Claim 39 wherein said plurality of applications correspond to a predetermined number of previously invoked applications.

41. (Previously Presented) A portable electronic system as recited in Claim 36 wherein said second data input area is an electronic game control template wherein any one of a plurality of electronic game controls is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

42 - 45. (Canceled)

46. (Previously Presented) An electronic system as recited in Claim 36 wherein said electronic system comprises a first module and a second module, wherein said first module includes said electronic display device, and wherein said second module includes said user removable data input device.

47. (Previously Presented) A portable electronic system as recited in Claim 36 wherein said electronic system comprises a personal digital assistant.

48. (Previously Presented) A portable electronic system as recited in Claim 36 wherein said user removable data input device includes a mechanism for automatically configuring said electronic system to recognize said user removable data input device.

49. (Previously Presented) A portable electronic system as recited in Claim 36 further comprising one or more communication ports.

50. (New) An electronic system as recited in claim 23 wherein said electronic system is of a clamshell configuration.